

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 SS-15 SSO-00 EB-11 L-03

INR-10 NSC-10 NSCE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 /101 R

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22670 8/24/73

APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY

NEA - MR. DAVIES

IO - MR. POPPER

S/S - MR. GAMMON

IO/TRC - MR. GRIP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 169578

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, IS, LE, U.S.

SUBJECT: ICAO ASSEMBLY

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ACTING SECRETARY

1. WE ARE REPEATING TO YOU SEPARATELY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH ARE BEING SENT TO USDEL TO ICAO ASSEMBLY, WHICH CONVENES IN ROME ON AUGUST 28. AS YOU WILL SEE, OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO STEER ASSEMBLY AWAY FROM ANY ACTION SPECIFICALLY IMPOSING PENALTIES ON ISRAEL AND TOWARD CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES TO GUARD AGAINST FUTURE INCIDENTS OF UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION.

2. WE ANTICIPATE CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM ARAB AND OTHER DELEGATIONS FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL. LEBANON, AS MAIN INJURED STATE IN AUGUST 10 INCIDENT, WILL OBVIOUSLY
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PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN ASSEMBLY IN THIS REGARD. ANY-

THING THAT CAN BE DONE TO BRING LEBANESE POSITION INTO LINE WITH OUR OWN COULD BE CRUCIAL.

3. LEAVE IT TO YOUR DISCRETION AS TO HOW TO PROCEED BUT WOULD SUGGEST THAT IN ANY CASE YOU DISCUSS ICAO ASSEMBLY WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NAFFA. YOU SHOULD ASSURE NAFFA THAT USG WANTS TO CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH GOL, AS IT DID IN SECURITY COUNCIL AND IN MONTREAL ICAO COUNCIL MEETING; WE BELIEVE THIS COOPERATION HAS BEEN BENEFICIAL TO

BOTH SIDES AND WE WOULD NOT WANT TO SEE IT STOP NOW. CONSISTENT WITH POSITION WE HAVE TAKEN IN UNSC AND ICAO COUNCIL, USG IS READY TO WORK WITH GOL ON RESOLUTION CONDEMNING AUGUST 10 ISRAEL ACTION. FOCUS OF COUNCIL'S ACTION HOWEVER, SHOULD BE TOWARD WAYS TO SAFEGUARD INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION FROM SUCH INTERFERENCE IN FUTURE AND MAKE PROVISION IN CIVIL AIR CONVENTIONS REGARDING INTERFERENCE COMMITTED BY STATES. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT USG WILL OPPOSE ANY SPECIFIC APPLICATION OF PENALTIES IN REGARD TO PAST INCIDENTS. SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT ISRAEL'S DIVERSION OF AIRCRAFT ON AUGUST 10 IS BY NO MEANS FIRST SUCH ACTION BY A STATE IN HISTORY OF CIVIL AVIATION. IF MOVE WERE MADE TO PENALIZE ISRAEL, OTHER INSTANCES (NOTABLY LIBYAN ACTION IN FORCING DOWN BRITISH AIRLINER ENROUTE TO SUDAN IN 1971) WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.

4. YOU MAY DRAW ON OUR CABLE OF INSTRUCTIONS TO USDEL FOR ANY OTHER POINTS WHICH YOU THINK MAY BE APPROPRIATE AND USEFUL WITH LEBANESE. ON PROCEDURAL SIDE, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO NAFFA THAT POSSIBILITY FOR OUR TWO DELEGATIONS TO WORK TOGETHER EFFECTIVELY AT ROME WILL DEPEND IN LARGE MEASURE, AS WE SEE IT, ON WILLINGNESS FROM LEBANESE SIDE TO DEFER TABLING DRAFT RESOLUTION UNTIL WE AND OTHERS HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT CLOSELY THERE ABOUT ITS CONTENTS. YOU SHOULD TELL NAFFA, THEREFORE, WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE IT IF HE COULD INSTRUCT LEBANESE DEL NOT TO CIRCULATE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION IN ROME UNTIL U.S. AND LEBANESE DELS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT.
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